



# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112  
(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

Week Ending August 7, 2011

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**Good Week for Field Work:** Pennsylvania had an average of 5 days suitable for field work. The precipitation returned in varying quantities throughout the state this week. Some areas were more fortunate in regards to getting the wet stuff than other areas, but any at all had to be better than what many were experiencing in weeks prior. Producers are reporting varied crop reactions to the recent rains depending on how much their particular area received. Primary field activities for the week included spreading manure, making hay, harvesting oats, apples, and peaches.

### PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending August 07, 2011

| Very Short | Short   | Adequate | Surplus |
|------------|---------|----------|---------|
| Percent    | Percent | Percent  | Percent |
| 15         | 49      | 35       | 1       |

**Crop Progress:** Corn in the silk stage is at 89% compared to 95% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 87%. Corn is 20% at the dough stage, behind the 12% a year ago and the 5-year average of 28%. Corn has reached a measurable height of 78 inches, compared to 82 inches last year, and an average of 78 inches. Oats are 96% yellow compared to last year's 99% and the average of 96%. Oats are 78% ripe, behind the 96% at this time last year and the average of 85%. Oat harvest is 53% complete, compared to last year's 79% and the average of 58%. Potato harvest has begun and is 5% complete compared to 4% at this time last year and is slightly behind the 5 year average of 6%. The third cutting of alfalfa is 65% complete, compared to the 81% last year and the 5-year average of 54%. Timothy/Clover second cutting is 77% complete, behind last year's 82%, and about the same as the 5-year average of 66%. Peach harvesting is 30% complete, compared to 63% at this time last year and the average of 47%. Apple harvesting is 18% complete behind the 24% last year, but about the same as the average of 18%.

**Crop Condition:** State-wide corn conditions are; 8% very poor, 20% poor, 36% fair, 28% good, and 8% excellent. Oats conditions are; 2% very poor, 27% poor, 38% fair, 31% good, and 2% excellent. Soybean conditions are; 1% very poor, 11% poor, 34% fair, 43% good, and 11% excellent. Quality of Hay made is 4% very poor, 3% poor, 25% fair, 44% good, and 24% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 38% very poor, 23% poor, 30% fair, 8% good and 1% excellent. Peach conditions are; 0% very poor, 0% poor, 7% fair, 50% good and 43% excellent. Apple conditions are; 6% very poor, 11% poor, 18% fair, 53% good and 12% excellent.

**Nationwide as of July 31, 2011:** Warmer-than-normal weather blanketed much of the nation, aiding winter wheat and summer crop development across the northern Plains and Northwest. Elsewhere, hot, dry weather maintained drought conditions on the southern Plains, as well as from the Ohio Valley into portions of the Southeast. Most notably, temperatures were well over the century mark throughout much of Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas during the week. Rainfall was scattered across the country, with totals reaching 5 inches or more in portions of the lower Delta and Great Lakes regions.

**Corn:** Silking advanced 18 percentage points during the week, as warm weather and adequate soil moisture levels provided nearly ideal growing conditions for reproductive corn in the major growing regions of the country. By week's end, 83 percent of the crop was at or beyond the silking stage, 9 percentage points behind last year and slightly behind the 5-year average. Eighteen percent of this year's corn crop was at or beyond the dough stage by July 31, twelve percentage points behind last year and 5 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Denting was underway in seven of the 18 major estimating states, with nationwide progress at 4 percent complete by week's end. This was 2 percentage points behind last year and slightly behind the 5-year average. Overall, 62 percent of the corn crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from last week but 9 percentage points below the same time last year.

**Soybeans:** Nationally, 77 percent of the soybean crop was at or beyond the blooming stage by week's end, 7 percentage points behind last year and 4 points behind the 5-year average. Bloom development was rapid across most of the major growing areas, with double-digit progress evident in 16 of the 18 major estimating states. By July 31, pods were setting on 34 percent of this year's soybean acreage, 16 percentage points behind last year and 11 points behind the 5-year average. Despite warm, sunny weather providing nearly ideal growing conditions during the week, overall progress remained well behind normal in most states. Overall, 60 percent of the soybean crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 2 percentage points from last week and 6 points below the same time last year.

**Winter Wheat:** Eighty-one percent of the 2011 winter wheat crop was harvested by week's end, 2 percentage points behind last year and 5 points behind the 5-year average. Producers in Montana began harvesting during the week; however, progress in the state remained 20 days behind normal due to delayed planting and slow crop development earlier in the season.

**Small Grains:** Oat producers harvested 10 percent of the nation's crop during the week, leaving progress—at 30 percent complete—18 percentage points behind last year and 14 points behind the 5-year average. Overall, 55 percent of the oat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down slightly from last week and 21 percentage points below the same time last year. While heading of the barley crop was complete or nearly complete in Idaho, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Washington, progress in Montana was limited to 3 percentage points during the week. Nationally, 92 percent of the barley crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 4 percentage points behind last year and 5 points—or approximately a week—behind the 5-year average. Overall, 72 percent of the barley crop was reported in good to excellent condition, down 5 percentage points from last week and 14 points below the same time last year.

## Weather Data For Week Ending August 7, 2011

| Station              | Last Week Weather Summary |     |         |               |       |      | April 1 - August 7, 2011 |       |      |              |      |          |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----|---------|---------------|-------|------|--------------------------|-------|------|--------------|------|----------|
|                      | Temperature               |     |         | Precipitation |       |      | Precipitation            |       |      | GDD Base 50F |      | Base 40F |
|                      | High                      | Low | Average | DFN           | Total | Days | Total                    | DFN   | Days | Total        | DFN  | Total    |
| <b>Northwest</b>     |                           |     |         |               |       |      |                          |       |      |              |      |          |
| Erie                 | 87                        | 64  | 78      | 7             | 1.08  | 2    | 19.31                    | 4.28  | 62   | 1,946        | 371  | 3,082    |
| Franklin_AG          | 90                        | 62  | 76      | 6             | 1.10  | 4    | 21.37                    | 3.59  | 69   | 1,957        | 460  | 3,102    |
| Meadville-Port       | 88                        | 62  | 76      | 8             | 0.84  | 3    | 21.00                    | 3.86  | 73   | 1,993        | 623  | 3,134    |
| Mercer               | 89                        | 63  | 76      | 7             | 0.96  | 5    | 21.36                    | 4.58  | 82   | 1,933        | 449  | 3,100    |
| Springboro           | 88                        | 58  | 74      | 4             | 0.55  | 4    | 19.98                    | 4.90  | 72   | 1,708        | 132  | 2,818    |
| Warren               | 90                        | 57  | 73      | 4             | 1.75  | 5    | 19.86                    | 2.42  | 66   | 1,775        | 317  | 2,907    |
| <b>North Central</b> |                           |     |         |               |       |      |                          |       |      |              |      |          |
| Bradford Region      | 85                        | 51  | 71      | 6             | 2.02  | 5    | 23.35                    | 5.66  | 74   | 1,527        | 461  | 2,601    |
| Oswayo               | 87                        | 44  | 68      | 3             | 1.79  | 5    | 20.00                    | 3.16  | 64   | 1,512        | 330  | 2,606    |
| Kane                 | 87                        | 57  | 72      | 8             | 1.43  | 6    | 24.21                    | 6.46  | 64   | 1,482        | 430  | 2,569    |
| Laporte              | 83                        | 57  | 69      | -2            | 3.95  | 5    | 32.39                    | 15.90 | 70   | 1,612        | 113  | 2,714    |
| Lock Haven           | 91                        | 64  | 75      | 4             | 2.21  | 4    | 20.27                    | 4.13  | 59   | 2,116        | 528  | 3,292    |
| Port Allegany        | 87                        | 58  | 72      | 7             | 1.52  | 6    | 22.21                    | 5.37  | 68   | 1,632        | 450  | 2,732    |
| Renovo               | 91                        | 58  | 74      | 4             | 1.40  | 4    | 22.02                    | 5.88  | 68   | 2,055        | 467  | 3,225    |
| Ridgway              | 88                        | 56  | 72      | 6             | 1.52  | 5    | 19.32                    | 1.29  | 66   | 1,652        | 459  | 2,778    |
| Stevenson Dam        | 95                        | 55  | 75      | 9             | 1.78  | 4    | 21.51                    | 3.48  | 59   | 1,951        | 758  | 3,102    |
| Towanda              | 88                        | 59  | 71      | 1             | 1.38  | 5    | 25.37                    | 11.71 | 59   | 1,839        | 329  | 2,984    |
| Wellsboro            | 90                        | 55  | 69      | 4             | 1.56  | 5    | 20.44                    | 6.64  | 67   | 1,592        | 465  | 2,680    |
| Williamsport         | 92                        | 65  | 76      | 4             | 3.22  | 6    | 26.59                    | 10.43 | 59   | 2,238        | 481  | 3,438    |
| <b>Northeast</b>     |                           |     |         |               |       |      |                          |       |      |              |      |          |
| Hawley               | 86                        | 58  | 70      | 3             | 3.64  | 3    | 29.71                    | 14.32 | 60   | 1,642        | 360  | 2,774    |
| Wilkes-Barre/Sc      | 87                        | 61  | 73      | 2             | 3.19  | 4    | 23.18                    | 8.02  | 64   | 2,043        | 372  | 3,224    |
| Susquehanna          | 88                        | 58  | 71      | 5             | 1.92  | 5    | 25.12                    | 8.62  | 64   | 1,735        | 503  | 2,870    |
| <b>West Central</b>  |                           |     |         |               |       |      |                          |       |      |              |      |          |
| Butler               | 89                        | 58  | 75      | 5             | 1.64  | 3    | 19.17                    | 2.50  | 66   | 1,993        | 440  | 3,178    |
| New Castle           | 96                        | 62  | 79      | 9             | 0.48  | 3    | 20.46                    | 5.12  | 67   | 2,163        | 602  | 3,350    |
| Slippery Rock        | 93                        | 58  | 76      | 8             | 0.61  | 3    | 18.93                    | 2.67  | 64   | 1,988        | 581  | 3,166    |
| <b>Central</b>       |                           |     |         |               |       |      |                          |       |      |              |      |          |
| Altoona/Blair        | 90                        | 63  | 76      | 5             | 2.16  | 3    | 18.63                    | 3.62  | 54   | 2,232        | 560  | 3,427    |
| DuBois               | 87                        | 59  | 74      | 5             | 1.70  | 4    | 21.45                    | 4.72  | 66   | 1,857        | 408  | 3,002    |
| Lewistown            | 94                        | 64  | 76      | 4             | 2.16  | 4    | 23.21                    | 6.99  | 54   | 2,252        | 420  | 3,462    |
| Middletown           | 93                        | 67  | 78      | 3             | 2.27  | 3    | 26.14                    | 10.44 | 50   | 2,489        | 419  | 3,732    |
| Prince Gallitzi      | 88                        | 58  | 74      | 6             | 1.89  | 5    | 16.93                    | -2.27 | 59   | 1,871        | 540  | 3,009    |
| Selinsgrove          | 91                        | 62  | 74      | 3             | 1.60  | 3    | 23.42                    | 7.27  | 63   | 2,112        | 397  | 3,302    |
| State College        | 89                        | 65  | 75      | 4             | 1.38  | 5    | 18.87                    | 3.94  | 54   | 2,130        | 476  | 3,306    |
| <b>East Central</b>  |                           |     |         |               |       |      |                          |       |      |              |      |          |
| Allentown-Bethel     | 92                        | 62  | 76      | 3             | 2.09  | 3    | 21.15                    | 4.62  | 53   | 2,322        | 426  | 3,543    |
| Lehighton            | 88                        | 63  | 74      | 0             | 2.97  | 3    | 24.43                    | 7.85  | 58   | 2,021        | 194  | 3,221    |
| Matamoras            | 89                        | 57  | 72      | 0             | 2.64  | 4    | 28.22                    | 11.01 | 63   | 1,755        | 101  | 2,917    |
| Mt_Pocono            | 84                        | 56  | 70      | 5             | 3.35  | 3    | 28.58                    | 10.59 | 63   | 1,722        | 597  | 2,858    |
| <b>Southwest</b>     |                           |     |         |               |       |      |                          |       |      |              |      |          |
| Pittsburgh/Alle      | 90                        | 69  | 79      | 9             | 0.83  | 4    | 16.37                    | 0.43  | 69   | 2,348        | 668  | 3,570    |
| Indiana_PA           | 88                        | 63  | 75      | 5             | 1.38  | 5    | 21.72                    | 3.20  | 81   | 2,059        | 441  | 3,245    |
| Myersdale            | 86                        | 53  | 73      | 3             | 0.67  | 3    | 19.33                    | 1.14  | 66   | 1,598        | 65   | 2,739    |
| Chalk_Hill           | 88                        | 57  | 73      | 2             | 1.38  | 3    | 30.38                    | 12.65 | 73   | 1,660        | -130 | 2,814    |
| Pittsburgh Intl      | 92                        | 68  | 80      | 9             | 0.31  | 4    | 15.02                    | 0.05  | 61   | 2,303        | 545  | 3,521    |
| Connellsville        | 91                        | 62  | 78      | 6             | 1.14  | 3    | 21.75                    | 4.02  | 80   | 2,193        | 403  | 3,408    |
| Waynesburg           | 90                        | 61  | 76      | 6             | 0.95  | 3    | 29.01                    | 12.65 | 65   | 2,078        | 453  | 3,292    |
| <b>South Central</b> |                           |     |         |               |       |      |                          |       |      |              |      |          |
| Biglerville          | 94                        | 65  | 78      | 4             | 0.28  | 3    | 20.29                    | 5.88  | 48   | 2,380        | 352  | 3,608    |
| Everett              | 90                        | 57  | 75      | 4             | 0.75  | 5    | 20.86                    | 6.31  | 57   | 1,971        | 324  | 3,167    |
| Hanover              | 97                        | 63  | 77      | 3             | 1.04  | 3    | 15.32                    | 0.91  | 49   | 2,354        | 326  | 3,576    |
| Harrisburg_AP        | 94                        | 67  | 78      | 3             | 1.88  | 3    | 23.61                    | 7.91  | 46   | 2,484        | 407  | 3,725    |
| South Mountain       | 91                        | 56  | 74      | 3             | 0.99  | 3    | 17.35                    | 2.34  | 55   | 1,953        | 288  | 3,137    |
| York                 | 92                        | 62  | 76      | 3             | 0.78  | 4    | 19.54                    | 3.58  | 53   | 2,350        | 331  | 3,589    |
| <b>Southeast</b>     |                           |     |         |               |       |      |                          |       |      |              |      |          |
| Green Lane           | 93                        | 63  | 77      | 4             | 1.12  | 2    | 18.20                    | 1.97  | 52   | 2,330        | 524  | 3,558    |
| Hamburg              | 92                        | 65  | 76      | 5             | 3.61  | 3    | 22.46                    | 3.27  | 57   | 2,308        | 660  | 3,524    |
| West_Chester         | 96                        | 61  | 77      | 3             | 0.87  | 3    | 14.35                    | -3.65 | 41   | 2,364        | 357  | 3,595    |
| Lancaster            | 94                        | 64  | 77      | 4             | 1.05  | 4    | 18.76                    | 1.99  | 53   | 2,419        | 519  | 3,651    |
| Neshaminy Falls      | 95                        | 62  | 78      | 5             | 1.77  | 3    | 18.37                    | -0.62 | 43   | 2,455        | 567  | 3,686    |
| New Holland          | 94                        | 65  | 76      | 2             | 0.47  | 5    | 17.45                    | 0.68  | 54   | 2,381        | 481  | 3,604    |
| Philadelphia         | 96                        | 67  | 80      | 4             | 2.59  | 3    | 15.05                    | -1.25 | 42   | 2,805        | 626  | 4,063    |
| Philadelphia NE      | 95                        | 64  | 79      | 3             | 1.34  | 3    | 17.27                    | 0.97  | 45   | 2,619        | 440  | 3,870    |
| Reading              | 96                        | 65  | 78      | 5             | 2.05  | 3    | 18.65                    | 0.93  | 56   | 2,551        | 686  | 3,797    |
| Sellersville         | 93                        | 61  | 76      | 4             | 1.15  | 2    | 18.82                    | 2.59  | 51   | 2,186        | 380  | 3,394    |
| Doylestown_AG        | 93                        | 63  | 78      | 5             | 1.24  | 3    | 18.74                    | -0.25 | 50   | 2,446        | 558  | 3,686    |

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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## REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

*Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

### **ADAMS COUNTY, Judy A Behney**

Adams County continues to be dry. Some showers have been received this week with only 0.2" if you were lucky to be in an area that received rainfall. Monday evening had bad thunder and lightning but not much rain with the storm. Saturday evening some thunderstorms came through the county with some areas around York Springs receiving 2.25" and other parts of county receiving 0.3" of rainfall. Sunday afternoon another thunderstorm came through the county with some rainfall in some areas and none in other parts of the county. The producers are grateful of the moisture that we are receiving in whatever amounts we get to help their crops. Corn crop is showing damage for the year. Early corn is too far gone due to excessive heat the past few weeks when pollinating. Our COC feels at this time maybe 50% loss but still a little too early to determine if we would get some more showers. Soybeans are fairing a little better during this dry season with early soybeans looking better than late planted or double-cropped soybeans. Hay continues to be baled mostly for mulch. No re-growth is happening due to lack of rainfall. Oats harvest is about complete with shorter height due to lack of rainfall. Fruit growers are saying apples will be similar to 2010 harvest or a little lighter at this time. Over-thinning happened due to the weather conditions this Spring. Apples are about at normal development for this time of the year but the heat the last few weeks may be pushing them a little. Peaches are good with normal yields being reported. Heat has brought fruit on which is causing the outside of fruit to be softer and still hard on inside of peach. Some peaches have been irrigated so they haven't been affected as much due to dry weather. The stinkbugs are affecting the earlier fruit as apricots, peaches are showing affects since they are in a sweeter stage. Sweet corn is drying up unless being irrigated. Pumpkins need rainfall and will soon be flowering in some areas. Other vegetables are being harvested throughout the county. Producers are still optimistic that if we can get some moisture that the crops could still fair ok for future harvest. Some crop adjusters for crop insurance are getting claims submitted for corn and soybeans.

### **ADAMS COUNTY, Lee Showalter**

Early peaches have had good quality but are slightly smaller than anticipated. The apple crop continues to size but is plagued with scab and many blocks that had a light crop. Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs have become more noticeable in the last week, but injury levels seem low at this time.

### **CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little**

Wet and Humid. The rains have really helped the corn.

### **CAMBRIA COUNTY, David Stolz**

Northern and eastern Cambria County are very, very dry.

### **CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker**

Some good rainfall during the week. I had 2.75 inches. This should help soybeans and 3rd cutting hay, some corn also.

### **CLARION COUNTY, Tom Tanner**

Much needed rain this past week. Some fall seeding started. Those who could not get their new seedings in this past spring are working on planting now.

### **COLUMBIA COUNTY, John O Yocum**

Received 1.75" rain. Crops look better, but yield probably reduced.

### **FRANKLIN COUNTY, Thomas Kerr**

A break from the excessive heat this week with highs only in the low to mid 80's. A few showers did little to help the moisture situation. Too late

for most of the mid season and late season corn. Early corn now showing some decent ears, but still too early to tell what yields might be. Some yields expected to be less than 50% of normal. Soybeans are doing well for conditions.

### **INDIANA COUNTY, David B. Overdorff**

Well we asked for rain and we got some this week. On Monday there was .50" and then on Saturday night we got 1.10". Finished the oats combining on Friday. The corn that started out good then got hit with the July drought is making a decent comeback. But not so good for some corn planted in dry fields planted in late June. It is not going to make much of anything. The soybeans are looking pretty good now too. Then last ones planted are going to be short and may not be done growing before the 1st frost. Some hay fields may be tall enough for a second cutting in 2 weeks. Hope everyone has a safe farming week.

### **LANCASTER COUNTY, Jeffrey Graybill**

Lancaster County received widespread but variable rainfall over the weekend.

### **LEBANON COUNTY, Charlene Ziegler**

Rain poured over the county this past week with varying amounts. Some areas had as much as 4 inches. Pastures are turning green. Crops that were previously stressed are appearing to have a chance.

### **MERCER COUNTY, JAMES P. RUST**

Oats harvesting is winding down and everyone is reporting low to very low yields. Most vegetable growers in the area are reporting good growth and yields in sweet corn, tomatoes, pickles, peppers, and etc. Rainfall continues to be spotty and limited to small amounts throughout the county. Nearby peach orchards are picking Red Havens this coming week.

### **NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Viola K. Pfleeger**

Received 3 inches of rain in the past 2 days. Praise the Lord.

### **SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer**

During the beginning of the week, the crops continued to suffer from the heat and drought. Cooler temperatures and rain came at the end of the week; however, it is too early to determine if it will help the corn and soybeans. Haymaking, spreading manure, and harvesting were the main activities for the week.

### **SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, Willie Keeney**

The west side of the county received some much needed rain. The corn crop is maturing. Second and third cutting of hay is re-growing.

### **UNION COUNTY, James Brubaker**

we had another 1.6" of rain this week and crops look very good. All of our corn has finished pollinating this week and with the rain yesterday and today (Sunday) I would expect that we will see some 200 bushel corn. Beans have really grown this past week, but we needed to spray for various bugs. We are very thankful how everything looks compared to a few weeks ago.

### **WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr**

Two days with significant rainfall for most of the county. Corn, soybeans, sweet corn and alfalfa continue to do well. The warm day and night temperatures are making for excellent growing conditions.

### **YORK COUNTY, John Rowehl**

Scattered thunderstorms provided some relief in random areas.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending August 7, 2011**

| Crop                        | Current Week   | Last Year      | 5-Year Average |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                             | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn, silk                  | 89             | 95             | 87             |
| Corn, dough                 | 20             | 35             | 28             |
| Corn average height, inches | 78             | 82             | 78             |
| Oats, turning yellow        | 96             | 99             | 96             |
| Oats, ripe                  | 78             | 96             | 85             |
| Oats, harvested             | 53             | 79             | 58             |
| Potatoes, harvested         | 5              | 4              | 6              |
| Alfalfa, 3rd cutting        | 65             | 81             | 54             |
| Timothy clover, 2nd cutting | 77             | 82             | 66             |
| Peaches, harvested          | 30             | 63             | 47             |
| Apples, harvested           | 18             | 24             | 18             |

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending August 7, 2011**

| Crop                | Very Poor      | Poor           | Fair           | Good           | Excellent      |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                     | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn                | 8              | 20             | 36             | 28             | 8              |
| Oats                | 2              | 27             | 38             | 31             | 2              |
| Soybeans            | 1              | 11             | 34             | 43             | 11             |
| Quality of hay made | 4              | 3              | 25             | 44             | 24             |
| Pasture             | 38             | 23             | 30             | 8              | 1              |
| Peaches             | 0              | 0              | 7              | 50             | 43             |
| Apples              | 6              | 11             | 18             | 53             | 12             |

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

United States  
Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Pennsylvania Field Office  
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203  
Harrisburg PA 17112

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